

Trip Report  
China  
August 30 – September 7, 2006

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I arrived in Beijing, China on August 31, 2006, and was met by Jianghua Sun of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The next morning we flew to Chengdu in the Sichuan Province. We met with Jianghua Zhou with the Forestry Institute of Sichuan province and discussed the project on *Tomicus yunnanensis*. The objectives of the project are to find an effective lure for this species and to test verbenone for tree protection. We discussed what potential lures we wanted to test and the design of the project. The next day we traveled to the project site outside the city of Dechang in the southern part of the Province. Many of the shoots were infested by the beetle, and we collected a number of infested shoots for Dr. Sun to take back to his lab in Beijing.



Tomicus trapping site, Sichuan province

We noted that they had placed their funnel traps on the branches of pines, so we suggested that the traps should be hung from string suspended between trees or from stands between trees. Based on the literature, the plan was to test trans-verbenol and

myrtenol together and separately as lures for the beetles. We also planned to have turpentine in the traps. They could not transport turpentine on the airplane, and we were not able to obtain turpentine immediately in Dechang, so we could not set up the experiment during our visit. The Forestry Institute would order the turpentine and begin the experiment the following week.

We returned to Chengdu, then Jianghua Sun and I traveled to the Jiuzhaigou Valley in the northern part of the Province. We visited Jiuzhaigou National Park, which has been designated as a World Heritage site. This site has a great diversity of plants and animals. Jianghua and Anthony Cognato have studied the bark beetles of this region, and identified a new species of *Ips*. We hiked through the primeval forest and checked some of the trap sites that still had funnel traps in place. Unfortunately, no pandas were observed during our visit.



Primeval Forest, Jiuzhaigou NP



Waterfalls, Jiuzhaigou NP



Crystal pool, Jiuzhaigou NP



We also went to the Huanglong Scenic and Historic Interest Area, another World Heritage site. This valley is renowned for its diverse forest ecosystems and the calcium carbonate formations deposited by the river. The water was crystal clear, and the ponds and waterfalls were incredibly beautiful.



Pools, Huanglong World Heritage Site



Huanglong World Heritage Site

We returned to Beijing on September 5, and on the 6<sup>th</sup> we attended a meeting of the committee working on the revised edition of the Forest Insects of China. The notes from that meeting are detailed in a separate report. I returned to the U.S. the following day.